

In his retirement years, GFWS supplemented his meagre government pension by trapping rabbits which were plentiful around his home in Point Lonsdale, by fishing and by growing and selling home grown vegetables to the locals, and particularly to the summer tourists. The flesh of the rabbits was used as main course meals, and the skins were sold every month in Geelong. Fish were not as plentiful as rabbits, but between these two protein sources, there was rarely need to waste money at the butcher's shop.

The garden soil was sandy, having little nourishment and virtually no moisture holding capacity. GFWS overcame both of these deficiencies by digging long deep trenches throughout his whole garden, and over many years patiently labouriously dragging up from the beach literally tons of kelp to bury in the trenches. The effectiveness of this can be seen from the photograph of GFWS grandson Richard, taken about 1930 standing in GFWS garden alongside some bean plants.

The family home was named "Samarai", after the island off Papua New Guinea where GFWS and Emma's elder son Frederick was stationed at the end of WW1 as the resident Naval Telegraphist. In year 2001, "Samarai" exterior looks exactly as it did half a century ago, except that it has a fresh coat of paint and a high front fence.

GFWS died 4.11.1944. Emma died 19.1.1959. Both are buried together in the Point Lonsdale cemetery, very near the southern main gate.